

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia May 11th 1864

Sir:

I have received a report from Dr Bonzano, formerly Melter & Refiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in relation to the condition of the Machinery and apparatus of that Institution.

It will not be expedient to coin either gold or Silver, at the above named Branch of the Mint, at the present nor for some time to come.

Two Presses for the Coinage of 5 cent Nicked-Copper can be readily fitted up at an expense not exceeding \$3,000. With these Presses from five to ten thousand dollars per week can be struck. The planchets complete and ready for stamping will have to be sent from this Mint as in the present condition of the machinery and apparatus at the Branch, neither Assaying, Rolling of ingots, cutting, Annealing, or melting, are practicable. About five men will be required to work the two Presses. Dr Bonzano can act as Superintendent, Melter & Refiner, and ^{The Assistant Treasurer at New Orleans;} can act as Treasurer-Corner. No Assayer will be required for the present. The compensation to be allowed Dr Bonzano, and say five workmen may be defrayed out of the ^{profits}.

profits arising from the five cent coinage. After the coinage of five cent Nickel-Copper, as herein proposed, is well under way, it will be time enough to prepare for further operations, and the Assay of gold and Silver.

In former years the most of the Silver Bullion and foreign Silver coin deposited at the Branch ~~might~~ was derived from Mexico, and it is not probable that any considerable amount of Silver for Assay or Coinage will be received until Peace and order are restored in that distracted Country. We may then expect a revival of trade between that Republic and our own and the receipt at New Orleans, as in former years, of large amounts of Silver. Facilities for the Coinage of Silver will then be required at the New Orleans Branch.

If the plan I have suggested for the Coinage of five cent Nickel-Copper pieces is approved by the Department I will prepare the proper instructions to carry the same into effect and submit them for your consideration.

To
Hon^{ble} Hugh McCulloch
Secy of Treasury
Washington. D.C.

I am Very Respy
Yr obt^l Svt
H R Linderman
Director

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia
May 11, 1867

Hon. Hugh McCulloch
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

Sir,

I have received a report from Dr. Bonzano, formerly Melter and Refiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in relation to the condition of the machinery and apparatus of that institution.

It will not be expedient to coin either gold or silver at the above named branch mint at the present nor for some time to come.

Two presses for the coinage of 5 cent nickel-copper can be readily fitted up at an expense not exceeding \$3,000. With these presses from five to ten thousand dollars per week can be struck. The planchets complete and ready for stamping will have to be sent from the Mint as at the present condition of the machinery and apparatus at the Branch, neither assaying, rolling of ingots, cutting, annealing or melting, are practicable. About five men will be required to work the two presses. Dr. Bonzano can act as Superintendent, Melter and Refiner, and Coiner. No Assayer will be required for the present. The Assistant Treasurer at New Orleans can act as Treasurer.

The compensation to be allowed Dr. Bonzano, and say five workmen may be defrayed out of the profits arising from the five cent coinage. After the coinage of five cent nickel-copper, as herein proposed, is well under way, it will be time enough to prepare for further operation and the assay of gold and silver.

In former years the most of the silver bullion and foreign silver coins deposited at the Branch Mint was derived from Mexico, and it is not probable that any considerable amount of silver for assay or coinage will be received until Peace and order are restored in that distracted country. We may then expect a revival of trade between the Republic and our own and the receipt at New Orleans, as in former years, of large amounts of silver. Facilities of the coinage of silver will then be required at the New Orleans Branch.

If the plan I have suggested for the coinage of five cent nickel-copper piece is approved by the Department, I will prepare the proper instructions to carry the same into effect and submit them for your consideration

I am, very respectfully
Your obedient servant
H.R. Linderman
Director